

## **DATABASE SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH IMPROVED LOCKS**

### **ABSTRACT**

5           A method for handling database locks includes detecting a new query from an administrator for a set of database records. Next, it is determined whether the administrator has any chance of being authorized to acquire a new lock. If so, an attempt is made to acquire the new lock and, on the failure to acquire, the administrator is informed that the lock has already been acquired by a prior  
10 administrator. Optionally, the new administrator is also provided with identifying information of the prior administrator and contact information for the prior administrator. The new administrator is therefore pre-screened to determine whether there is any chance to acquire a new lock to reduce the chance that an unauthorized new administrator could lock the set of database records. Also, should the new  
15 administrator be authorized but not able to access the set of database records due to a prior lock, the new administrator can be informed of the identity and contact information concerning the holder of the prior lock.

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